

# Scott Veterinary Clinic

# News

Spring  
2018

## Opening hours

(excluding Bank Holidays)

### Bedford:

Mon-Fri 08.30-19.00

Sat 09.00-17.00

Sun 09.00-12.00

405 Goldington Road

MK41 0DS

01234 261622

### Sharnbrook:

Mon & Weds 09.00-19.00

Tues, Thurs & Fri  
09.00-17.00

Sat/Sun Closed

44 High Street

MK44 1PF

01234 782204

### Wixams:

Mon, Weds & Fri  
09.00-17:00

Tues & Thurs  
09:00-19:00

Sat/Sun Closed

(next to Garden Centre)

Bedford Road

MK45 3HU

01234 742423

Please specify your vet and branch preference when booking your appointment.

## Kennel Cough Vaccination – planning ahead

Whether it's the UK or abroad and whether you take your pet with you or not, your holidays this year may impact on your pets. We advise you plan ahead for kennel/cattery stays, to ensure your pets' vaccinations are adequate and in date.

In dogs, Bordetella Bronchiseptica and Parainfluenza (also known as Kennel Cough) are responsible for this highly infectious and easily spread disease. It is spread amongst dogs, especially where there are many dogs in one place such as in kennels or at dog shows, even at the park or in your own back garden! Kennel cough is spread easily from dog to dog. Each cough produces minute droplets containing the bacterium and virus. Once in the air the droplets are inhaled by the next dog and so the infection is passed on. The incubation period for Kennel Cough is approximately 10 days however, the disease can still be spread for a number of weeks after the infected animal has stopped coughing.

By vaccinating against Bordetella and Parainfluenza (Kennel Cough), you will help your dog avoid Sneezing, coughing, painful retching and as a result sometimes vomiting, reduced appetite and nasal discharge. Severe Kennel Cough in puppies or older dogs could cause pneumonia if left untreated and in some cases this could be fatal. When vaccinating your dog against Kennel Cough we recommend you also note the following:

- Your dog is not fully protected from Bordetella until 72 hours after the KC booster vaccine has been given.
- Always check with your kennels first as some may have restrictions and may request e.g. a six week period after the vaccine has been given, before allowing them in.
- Kennel Cough vaccinated dogs can shed the vaccine strain of Kennel Cough for several weeks. Some studies show up to 6 weeks. (Kennel Cough is a live vaccine). Immunocompromised individuals can be at risk e.g. Pregnant or on chemotherapy.

When your dog is due their annual health check and booster vaccination, they may also be entitled to a 10% discount on a Kennel Cough vaccine, when paid for at the same time. Please ask when booking your appointment.



## The month of May celebrates

### Veterinary Nursing Awareness Month



The British Veterinary Nursing Association celebrates Veterinary Nursing Awareness Month each year and highlights the incredibly important role veterinary nurses have in practice.

On 15th May we will be hosting a careers evening for those

Considering a career in the veterinary industry.

The evening will be suitable for anyone interested in a career in this field.

Both Nurses and Vets will be there to present a short talk and to answer any of your questions about working in practice. Full details will be posted on our website and Facebook page closer to the time.

Throughout the month of May we will also have regular posts on our Facebook page, written by our nurses, about their role in practice. Follow their story in May @ScottsVets



[www.scottveterinaryclinic.co.uk](http://www.scottveterinaryclinic.co.uk)



## Parasites: Spring into action!

The warmer months are peak season for pesky parasites and two of the most annoying are fleas and ticks!



**Fleas** are 2-3mm in length and can be seen without magnification. These tiny wingless insects survive by feeding on your pet's blood, causing very intense irritation and sometimes allergic skin disease. Fleas also play a major role in transmitting tapeworms in dogs and cats.

**Ticks** tend to be a problem in the warmer months and commonly live in areas of heathland, moorland and woodland, waiting to attach themselves to passing animals. Ticks feed on your pet's blood and can cause problems in two ways- they can cause a tissue reaction at their site of attachment and secondly they can transmit diseases such as Lyme disease and Babesiosis. Don't let fleas and ticks make your life a misery- please let us advise on the best form of flea and tick control for your pet.

# FREE 6 Month Health Check

You are invited to attend a FREE 6 month health check with one of our Veterinary Nurses, six months after your pets annual vaccination with us. As part of the health check we will examine your pet to check its general health; teeth, ears, eyes, skin and coat. We will also discuss and provide advice for any concerns you may have about exercise regimes, diet and preventative healthcare.

Patients over the age of 8 are offered a FREE urine test. If possible, the nurse will obtain a sample during the appointment. Alternatively you may be provided with a sample pot and given instruction on how to obtain a sample at home. This simple test can help identify diabetes, kidney disease and urinary infections. For feline patients over the age of 7 we also offer a FREE blood pressure check. This is a simple non-invasive test. High blood pressure in cats can often be an indication of an underlying disease such as chronic kidney disease or overactive thyroid gland. If left untreated high blood pressure can result in blindness and cause associated heart disease.

Please ring the surgery to arrange your FREE consultation with a nurse. If your pet is at all unwell you may be asked to have an appointment with one of our Vets, for which a normal consultation fee will apply.

Please note: Urine collection kits can be supplied at extra cost.

Please ask for details.



## Our on-site Hydrotherapy Service

Hydrotherapy is a form of exercise carried out in warm water, giving increased circulation to muscles, increased joint flexibility and reduced joint pain.

Our hydrotherapy suite is fully approved by the Canine Hydrotherapy Association and staffed by our own experienced Registered Veterinary Nurses, who each hold a CHA certificate in Canine Hydrotherapy. Our hydrotherapy sessions run Monday – Saturday, including evenings and, if you buy 10 sessions you get one FREE! You don't have to be a client of the practice, we also accept referrals from other practices too. Visit our website for details:



[www.scottveterinaryclinic.co.uk/hydrotherapy](http://www.scottveterinaryclinic.co.uk/hydrotherapy)

## Rabbit Health Update – RHDV2

Myxomatosis and Rabbit Haemorrhagic Disease vaccinations are strongly recommended to protect your rabbit from these diseases. We recommend continuing to vaccinate your rabbit against Myxomatosis and Rabbit Haemorrhage Disease as well as vaccinate against the new variant of Rabbit Haemorrhage Disease. Please ask our reception team for details about the new vaccine when booking in. You will also find more details in the Pet Health section of our website.

## PETS Travel Scheme

In order for dogs, cats and ferrets to enter the UK from, or re-enter the UK after having travelled to a PETS scheme EU Member or approved non EU countries, various criteria need to be met. Plan ahead for your trip. Please ask for details

## Tortoise Health checks



If you have a tortoise that has hibernated this winter, they will be waking up about now. This is a critical time for tortoises as they are often weak, dehydrated and more vulnerable to infections. A healthy tortoise should eat drink and urinate within 5-7 days of waking up. Post-hibernation anorexia is a common problem and can be suggestive of a serious health problem. Call the surgery now to book your tortoise post hibernation health check.



What do you think about our facilities and services?

Visit our website

[www.scottveterinaryclinic.co.uk](http://www.scottveterinaryclinic.co.uk) and tell us how we're doing, plus you can follow us on Facebook. Like our page for fun and interesting articles, news and special offers!

